

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPER FOR BENTON COUNTY

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The news by telegraph regarding the prospects of war between Russia and England is very much at variance at different times, so much so that it seems like a large portion of such news is put out in the interests of speculators. One day we see under prominent headlines that the "War between Russia and England is imminent." And in this manner the news comes as much at variance each succeeding day, and still the difficulties between the two nations go on without settlement or open war. From everything which has occurred on the subject it would seem that about the only way to avoid war is for England to back down and creep out of the difficulty as best she can, because Russia seems to be anxious for the conflict, and the condition of her people at home seems to demand an outside struggle with some foreign nation in order to engage in some other way the nihilistic condition of her people at home.

Much complaint of late is heard of the dry weather on the crops, a few go so far as to assert that if rain should come immediately that the present crops would be very much short of a good yield while most observers of present conditions concede that a good quantity of rain within two or three weeks will assist in making a fair crop and the latter opinion is no doubt the correct one when we consider that this is only the first part of May and spring crops many years yield well when not sowed until the 10th to the 15th of May. The season however this year in point of time is a month in advance of what it usually is. A trip into the country however affords an opportunity of observing that the grain is most generally in good color and in a nice green growing condition with few exceptions and while it is true that some of the late sown grain is very short and some of it very thin because the seed has not all come up yet, plenty of good rain in a couple or three weeks, it is generally conceded will bring this out in fair shape.

The city election which came off last Monday in this place was a democratic fight clear through. There were three tickets in the field and nearly all the candidates on all of them were democrats. In the first place the people who had been holding open temperance meetings appointed a committee to call a citizens meeting to nominate a city ticket, and when the meeting came together and had finished nominating the ticket it was found that the industrious democrats had gathered in upon them and had captured their meeting and the consequence was that nearly all of the candidates nominated were democrats, most of whom cared little for temperance and more for setting down on the originators of the meeting. A week later another citizens meeting was called to nominate another ticket which meeting also was composed mostly of democrats who nominated a ticket composed mostly of democrats. This, however, did not fully satisfy the longings of all those democrats who so craved official position and hence a pure and unadulterated democratic convention was called to nominate a pure unadulterated democratic ticket, which was done, making plenty of democratic material to vote for. The result of the election was that those elected were all democrats except the Marshal who was a republican. In this contest the republicans laid quiet, made no nominations and hence had the opportunity of observing a pure democratic fight all among themselves and between some candidates the fight waxed bitter and strong. What will be the out-come or result of the contest can not yet be said but it is hoped that those elected will make for us a good city government economically administered for the best interests of all.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FUND.

There appears an article in the *Oregonian* of May 4th which still pursues the idea that because a bill was passed at the last legislature providing for the building of a State Agricultural College building and for the government of the college to pass under state control and government, when such new college building is completed and accepted by the state, that therefore such bill completely annuls all laws which heretofore existed for the support and maintenance of the Agricultural College under the old and present government. The idea is certainly a mistaken one about which there does not seem to be any doubt when the new bill is construed with the laws which existed before its passage. If the Secretary of the State, as the *Oregonian* says, has concluded that he has no authority to draw warrants for the support of the College during the next two years, his mind certainly can be disabused of that conclusion after a complete and thorough examination of the different acts provided for the support and government of the State Agricultural College. The new bill does not repeal or in any way interfere with the laws existing previous to the passage of said bill, which provides for the drawing of warrants for the support of and government of said College, while it is true that the new bill provided for the appointment of a new board of Regents consisting of the State Board of Education and the remainder of said Board to the number of thirteen to be appointed by the Governor. Yet it still further provides that such new "Board of Regents shall not assume the government of said College until the building mentioned in this act shall have been completed as aforesaid, and accepted by the Governor on behalf of the State." Thus it will be seen that the new board of Regents if they had already been appointed could only act as figure heads with no duties to perform until the College building is completed and accepted by the Governor on behalf of the State. The *Oregonian* uses the following words, "The bill provides for the College to be opened some time during the next two years, but not for the present school, whose board resigned the advantages of state aid before the meeting of the legislature." "The privileges once resigned were not renewed." The fact of the matter is that the old board of regents tendered to the State at that last session of legislature their resignation which could have no effect until it was accepted by the legislature on the part of the State, because the arrangement with the old Board by which they assumed control and management of the school was a mutual arrangement by two parties the Board on one side and the state upon the other and the duties thus assumed could not be thrown off and abandoned without the consent of the other, hence the new bill passed by the legislature in Sec. 13 thereof provides for the matter now being considered in the following words, "Sec. 13. That Corvallis College in Benton county, having signified its intention and desire to relinquish to the State the control and management of the State Agricultural College, the same is hereby by accepted to take effect at the time, and in the manner provided in this Act." The time referred to in the section just quoted as provided in the bill is to be when the building is completed and accepted by the Governor at which time the new Board shall assume control and management of the College in the manner provided under the bill. Any other construction of the bill would certainly be a strained construction which no court would sustain.

THE CONDITION OF HUMAN LIFE FROM A SCIENTIFIC STANDPOINT.

It has been computed that nearly two years sickness is experienced by every person before he is seventy years old and therefore that ten days per annum is the average sickness of human life. Till forty it is but half and after fifty it rapidly increases. The mixed and fanciful diet of man is considered the cause of numerous diseases from which animals are exempt. Many diseases have abated with changes of diet, and others are virulent in particular countries, arising from peculiarities. About the age of 36 years the lean man usually becomes fatter, and the fat man leaner. Again between the years 43 and 50 his appetite fails, his complexion fades; and his tongue is apt to be furred upon the least exertion of body or mind. At this period of life his muscles become

flabby, his joints weak, his spirits droop and his sleep is imperfect and unrefreshing. After suffering under these complaints a year or perhaps two he starts afresh and with renewed vigor, and goes to 61 or 62 when a similar change takes place, but with aggravated symptoms. When these grand periods have been successfully passed, the gravity of incumbent years is more strongly marked, and he begins to boast of his age.

Of 100,000 male and female children on a mean of many tables, it appears in the first month they are reduced to 90,399 or nearly one-tenth. In the second month, to 87,936. In the third month, to 86,175. In the fourth to 84,720. In the fifth, to 83,571. In the sixth, to 82,626, and by the end of the first year to 77,528, and deaths being 2 in 9. The next 4 years will reduce the number to 62,448, indicating 37,552 deaths before the completion of the fifth year. At 25 years the 100,000 are reduced to one-half, or 49,995 only remains; at 52, a third. At 58, a fourth, or 25,000; at 67, a fifth; at 76, a tenth; at 81 a twentieth, or 5000; and ten only attain the age 100. Children die in large proportions because their diseases can not be explained; and because the organs are not habituated to the functions of life. The mean of life varies in different countries from 40 to 45. A generation from father to son, is about 30 years; of men in general, five-sixths die before 70, and fifteen-sixteenths before 80. After 80 it is rather endurance than enjoyment. The nerves are blunted, the senses fail, the muscles are rigid, the softer tubes become hard the memory fails, the brain ossifies, the affections are buried, and hope ceases, the sixteenth die at 80; except a one-thirty-third, at 90, and the remainder die from inability to live, at or before 100.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

So great has been the demand for the services of the specialist experimentally employed by the Swedish Government during the last few years to aid farmers in the destruction of insects, etc., injurious to crops, that the office of entomologist is to be continued permanently.

It has been found by R. Koch and P. Miquel that the superficial layers of the soil are exceedingly rich in microscopic organisms, or bacilli. Miquel considers that these bacilli play an important part in the decomposition of organic matter and in the formation of assimilable plant food.

Different woods hold different quantities of water. According to Scheubler and Hartig, freshly-cut hornbeam contains 18.6 per cent. of water; willow 26 per cent; ash, 28.7 per cent; birch, 30.8 per cent; oak, 34.7 per cent; pine, 39.7 per cent; red beach, 39.7 per cent; elm, 44.5 per cent; larch, 48.6 per cent; and white poplar, 50.6 per cent.

Being called upon to analyze some specimens of wine from a vineyard near Nîmes, France, Mons. Barthélemy, Professor of the faculty of Sciences at Toulouse, found them to contain rather a large proportion of arsenic, which proved to have been derived from the impure sulphuric acid with which the wine-casks have been cleansed.

In a discussion before the London Pathological Society, Dr. Wilks stated that in some cases of rupture of the heart by wounds life has continued for twenty-four hours.

Two German investigators find that the use of sunflower seed cake as food for cows reduces the total production of milk.

The ruins of an ancient Roman city have been discovered near the Gulf of Gabès, in Tunis, by Lieut. Massena.

A remarkable phenomenon was lately observed at Karingon, Sweden. During a perfectly calm evening a violent whirlwind arose from the south-east, when a brilliant meteor suddenly appeared in the zenith, traveled to the northwest and burst near the horizon. As the meteor disappeared the wind quickly ceased, the whole phenomenon lasting only about sixty seconds.

While on the ice of Greenland last summer, Baron Nordenskjöld's party experienced not only snow-blindness, with which Arctic travellers are so familiar, but also a painful blistering of the skin of the face, produced by the sunshine in the dry, transparent and thin air. The blisters caused the skin of the nose, ears and cheeks to peel off in large patches. This was repeated several times during the journey of the party, and the pain was increased by the effect of the cold morning air on the newly-formed skin. The sun has no similar effect in the tropics.

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—AND—

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S. L. HENDERSON, Prop.

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The Billiard Parlor, is fitted up in first class style, and supplied with a No. 1 Table always in good order. Lovers of the game will ever find a quiet and orderly place to spend an hour in these parlors with the assurance of being uninterrupted by rowdiness.

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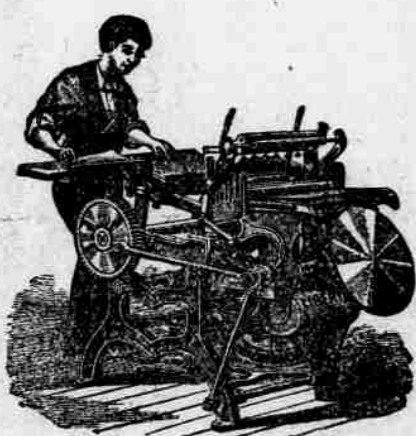
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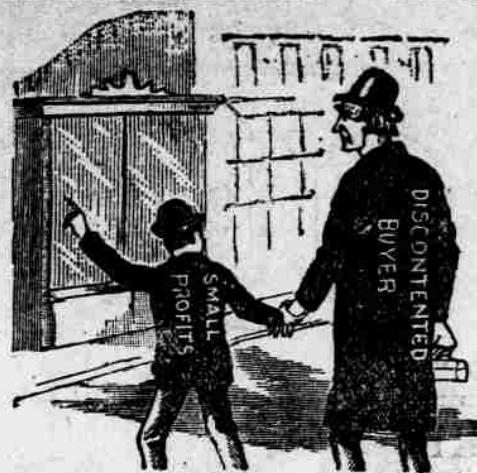
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SMALL PROFITS.

The time for big profits and long credits is of the past, and if superceded by small profits and a cash system offers an excellent chance for retrenchment. Considering the present condition of affairs it behooves every person to practice economy and to obtain for every dollar expended the best and most satisfactory result. This can be only accomplished by a strictly CASH SYSTEM. The expense of keeping accounts and the cost of collection must of necessity be added to the price of goods sold. There is also a more important contingency to be provided for, namely: the number and amount of bad accounts that are unavoidable in giving credit, no matter how careful the seller may be. These losses must be made good by charging cash customers a higher price, to make up for losses sustained on worthless accounts. Being fully alive to these facts and in sympathy with the present condition of the farming community, we have placed ourselves in a position to offer every advantage to cash purchasers. While our prices appear low, we would state that all goods sold by us are first-class and guaranteed in every respect as represented. Long experience in the mercantile business, together with a competent knowledge of the various markets, enables us to purchase our supplies as low as any house in this section. Our new Spring and Summer stock is now complete in all departments, and we respectfully solicit an inspection of the same. Thanking our numerous patrons for the liberal patronage extended to us for the past twelve months, we kindly ask a continuance of the same.

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As in past, will continue to be the exponent of The Interests of Benton County and the State at Large.

It will faithfully and fearlessly warn the people of wrong, imposition, or approaching danger where the public is interested, never fearing to publish the truth at all times, but will endeavor to always ignore all unpleasant personalities which are of no public interest or concern.

—OFFICE IN—

Fisher's Block.